

Novel Betaines of the Hexaalkylguanidinio-carboxylate Type

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Dedicated to Professor Hubert Schmidbaur on the occasion of his 75th birthday

Betaines **7a**, **b** and **8a**, **b** have been prepared from 3- and 4-piperidinecarboxylic acid and *N,N,N',N'*-tetraalkyl-chloroformamidinium chlorides *via* the corresponding methyl esters. These betaines are highly hygroscopic, thermally very stable, and, with the exception of **7b**, have rather low melting points. They undergo a surprisingly facile alkaline cleavage of the hexaalkylguanidinium moiety. They react with dichloromethane by a twofold nucleophilic substitution to form methylene dicarboxylates such as **11**. The NMR (¹H, ¹³C) data of betaines **7** and **8** are discussed.

Key words: Betaines, Guanidinium, Nipecotic Acid, Isonipecotic Acid, Piperidinecarboxylic Acids